

IMPLEMENTATION

The Idaho Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Incident Command and Response Support Plan will be initiated when Idaho State Communications (**1-800-632-8000**, or **208-846-7610**) is notified of an incident involving hazardous chemical(s), biological agents, explosive devices or radioactive materials.

The decision to initiate the request for assistance provided in this plan should be made by Incident Command. StateComm will notify appropriate response and support agencies.

All hazardous materials or WMD incidents should be reported to StateComm even if the local jurisdiction requires no outside assistance. This enables the Bureau of Homeland Security, Department of Environmental Quality, Idaho State Police, the Public Utilities Commission, the Idaho Transportation Department, U.S. EPA, F.B.I., and other state/federal agencies to perform their regulatory responsibilities concerning responsible party(s), including the owner, user, site operator, shipping agent, carrier or others in whose custody the material has been placed. In the case of WMD incidents, it allows the appropriate state and federal agencies to promptly begin support to response efforts and to begin investigation efforts. Reporting hazardous material incidents to StateComm also fulfills state reporting requirements as established by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Idaho Hazardous Substance Emergency Response Act.

PURPOSE

The Idaho Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Incident Command and Response Support Plan is an Incident Annex of the Idaho Emergency Operations Plan. This IDEOP Incident Annex may be activated independently of the Idaho Emergency Plan. The Plan's primary purpose is to provide effective, coordinated emergency response support to local government by state, federal, and private agencies for incidents involving the release or potential release of hazardous materials in the State of Idaho. For the purposes of this Plan, hazardous materials include biological agents, radioactive and non-radioactive hazardous materials, as well as devices intended to cause harm. Other purposes of this plan are to provide guidance to state personnel who may encounter an incident involving hazardous materials/WMD's and to define the support role of specific state agencies. This state plan can be initiated at the request of local governments when their emergency response capabilities have been exceeded. Authority for implementation of the plan is derived from the Idaho Hazardous Substance Emergency Response Act (Idaho Code §39-7101), the Idaho Environmental Protection and Health Act (Idaho Code §39-101 et.seq.), the Hazardous Waste Management Act (Idaho Code §39-4401 et.seq.), Protection from Radioactive Materials (Idaho Code §39-3005) and the Idaho Homeland Security Act of 2004 (Idaho Code §46-1001 et.seq.).

This Plan allows for coordination with local hazardous materials/WMD response plans developed by cities, counties and the Local Emergency Planning Committees pursuant to the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). Coordination may include out-of-state entities. The Plan provides for response and support for hazardous materials/WMD incidents that are beyond the capabilities of local response personnel; it is a state **support** plan. Local jurisdictions should determine whether they have the capacity or training to respond safely to hazardous materials/WMD incidents. For local jurisdictions which have elected to provide the bulk of their own coverage, the state plan will provide Communications and Incident Command support and technical assistance as requested.

This plan is premised on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as well as the Incident Command System (ICS). NIMS and the ICS are management tools that provide a structure for response to emergency situations; in this case, hazardous materials or WMD incidents. It allows federal, state, and private entities to be integrated with local command authority.

The State of Idaho recognizes the wide variation in local hazardous materials/WMD response capabilities throughout the state. It is important, therefore, to emphasize that the state's intent is to SUPPLEMENT, not supplant local activity.

This plan outlines the circumstances under which a state response will be initiated. It covers agency procedures, communications, capabilities and responsibilities; it describes levels of command, and it provides for the follow-up to hazardous material/WMD incidents.

Finally, this plan is designed to be used for transportation and fixed site hazardous materials incidents, as well as incidents involving abandoned materials which may pose a threat to human health or the environment. The plan is also designed to use the hazardous materials model to deliver support to WMD incidents in which there is intent to intimidate and harm. In accordance with Idaho law, the state may consult and cooperate with agencies in federal government and other states.